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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel Calder on 9/02/05.

The application has been amended as follows: 1. Cancel claim 3.

2. In claim 1, at the end of line 8 after data delete period "." and insert --, wherein the arithmetic coding unit terminates an arithmetic coding process when an incremented value in the arithmetic coding process is equal to a sum of a number of pixels of the image data and the specific data added by the data adding unit--.